

**Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting held on
October 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in Board Rooms 215, 216, & 217
at 126 S. York Street, Elmhurst, IL, DuPage County**

Call to Order: President Caforio called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Education	Present	Absent
Mrs. Kara Caforio - President	x	
Mr. Chris Kocinski - Vice- President		x (present @ 7:00 p.m.)
Mrs. Courtenae Trautmann - Secretary	x	
Mrs. Athena Arvanitis	x	
Mr. James Collins	x	
Mrs. Elizabeth Hosler	x	
Mrs. Karen Stuefen	x	

President Caforio stated there are 6 board members present and 1 absent, there is a quorum present.

Administration	Present	Absent
Dr. Keisha Campbell - Superintendent	x	
Mr. Rudy Gomez	x	
Mr. Scott Grens	x	
Mr. Luke Pavone	x	
Mr. Kevin Rubenstein	x	
Mr. Chris Whelton	x	

Public Attendance: 23 members of the public attended the board meeting.

Closed Session

President Caforio asked for a motion to adjourn to closed session at 6:02 p.m to discuss matters relating to The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity; AND Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees;

AND Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property.

AND The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.

AND Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent.

AND Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.

Mrs. Trautmann moved and Mrs. Hosler seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mrs. Trautmann, Mrs. Hosler, Mrs. Stuefen, Mrs. Arvanitis, Mr. Collins, and Mrs. Caforio voted aye. Motion carried. Mr. Kocinski was absent.

Reconvene to Open Session

President Caforio asked for a motion to reconvene to Open Session at 6:54 p.m. Mrs. Trautmann moved and Mrs. Stuefen seconded the motion session. Voice Vote - the motion was declared and carried.

Pledge of Allegiance: Board members led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Spotlight/Recognition

Fischer Parent Mentor Program:

Fischer Principal Villa introduces Dr. Leonard and parent liaison, Ms. Vargas, to introduce the parent mentor program. Dr. Leonard stated the program was brought to Conrad Fischer 4 years ago in 2018 in partnership with the Logan Square Neighborhood Association Parent Mentor Program and the Parent Engagement Institute. The program is designed to empower and develop parents as leaders by bringing them into the school as team members and for parents to partner with classroom teachers to provide support to students, along with providing parents with weekly training to develop their skills. Dr. Leonard introduces Ms. Vargas, parent liaison, also serving as the parent coordinator. She receives regular training from the Logan Square Neighborhood Association and the Parent Engagement Institute on how to train parents to work with our students and staff and in turn provides training to our parents every Friday. Since inception, some of the accomplishments include a Mother's Day Tea Party, Parent Mentor Garden Outdoor Classroom, and Mrs. Dewar Little Library. Many of the diverse, multi-lingual parent mentors in attendance were recognized. The board congratulated the mentors with applause.

Public Comments

9 guests provided public comment to the Board ranging from teacher support, cyber-bullying, York curriculum, IASB resolutions, and thanks for keeping students safe. There was up to 30-minutes allocated for public comments with up to three (3) minutes per public comment speaker concerning items on this agenda, as well as communication, petitions, reports from citizens or representatives of other public agencies.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

Approval of Regular Board Minutes: October 12, 2021

Approval of Closed Session Minutes: October 12, 2021

President Caforio asked if there were any changes to minutes and hearing no changes, the minutes were declared to stand as presented.

Reports and Presentations

Student Growth and Achievement Highlights- Part 2

Dr. Grens introduces the second part of a three-part presentation. The data focuses on performance indicators of results from the state and national assessments administered in the Spring of 2021 (during the 2020-2021 school year). The presentation includes an overview of the D205 student performance, along with key takeaways from initial reviews of the following state assessments, national assessments, and various indicators: 1) Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR); 2) Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT); 3) Early College Coursework (Advanced Placement -AP, Dual Credit, Advanced College Project - ACP); 4) Advanced Placement Participation / Passing Rate; 5) Graduation Rate; 6) Postsecondary Enrollment; and 7) 9th Grade on Track. As a reminder, Dr. Grens stated in 2017 the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was required for every state. Due to the pandemic, there were no state performance plans/scores issued for school years 2020 and 2021. Dr. Grens introduces, Dr. Anna Strati, Director of Research and Analysis as they both present the data details from the various assessments. The details can be found in the BoardDocs presentation.

The board's comments and questions revolved around appreciation for presenting the data, wondering the frequency in measuring, acknowledgment of current student and parent resources, suggestion to expand summer academy to other grade levels, concern with cohorts below 25%, wondering what is next, the need for more time to review the data, a deeper dive into the math data, share teacher successes with colleagues, and add middle and elementary school percentage information.

Medical/Dental Benefit Contracts

Mr. Whelton introduces, Mr. John McConnell, the employee benefits consultant with AssuredPartners to present the renewal overview. Mr. Whelton provided some background stating this information is presented every year at this time for board approval because open enrollment begins in November. He indicated that Ms. Jessica Romero, Benefits Coordinator, assisted in implementing a new benefit administration software for all employees to actively make benefit selections. Mr. McConnell presented the renewal overview and the 2022 rate projections. For 2022 there are some plan enhancements that include: 1) Adding AssuredExcellence at no cost to the District, which provide savings opportunities for members and the plan through discounted Specialty Rx medications and high quality health care services through leading National

Partners; 2) Adding Member Rewards through BCBS to incent members seeking efficient medical care while receiving the best outcomes; 3) Adding Livongo as a targeted solution for District plan participants who are diabetics, which provides savings to the member while increasing treatment compliance and reducing exposure to the District; and 4) Total savings projection for three plan enhancements = 349,029. The offered plans are remaining the same. The board wondered about trend in elective surgeries postponed due to the pandemic and is there any training videos for the new benefit software.

Preliminary Tax Levy

Mr. Whelton reviewed the estimated 2021 tax levy (tax request) timeline as follows:

- January 2021 – CPI is 1.4%, which applies to this tax levy cycle
- October 26, 2021 – Submit estimated tax levy for board approval
- December 3, 2021 – Public hearing notice in the newspaper
- December 14, 2021 – Public hearing and final Board approval
- December 17, 2021 – Board approved tax levy filed with the county
- End of March 2022 – Final EAV (Equalized Assessed Value) and Tax Extensions received from DuPage County.

Due to the tax cap, the District is limited to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for its increase of Operating taxes, regardless of the valuation of property in the District. The most critical assumption for the tax levy and tax extension calculation is the New Construction EAV because it is exempt from the tax cap, and therefore our operating (capped) extension can exceed the 1.4% CPI increase for this amount. The board's discussion included thoughts and comments regarding different ways of viewing levying monies, fund balance, abatement, and requesting 2-3 year projections.

Consent Agenda Items

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Financial Reports
- C. Bid 22-03-013 Lincoln Case Work
- D. 2022-2023 Course Proposals
- E. York HS and Emerson ES Architectural Reroof Contract
- F. Edison/Lincoln PTA Donation
- G. Hawthorne PTA Donation

President Caforio asked for a motion to approve the following consent agenda items: A. Personnel Report; B. Financial Reports; C. Bid 22-03-013 Lincoln Case Work; D. 2022-2023 Course Proposals; E. York HS and Emerson ES Architectural Reroof Contract; F. Edison/Lincoln PTA Donation; and G. Hawthorne PTA Donation. Mrs. Trautmann moved and Mrs. Arvanitis seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mrs. Trautmann, Mrs. Arvanitis, Mrs. Stuefen, Mr. Kocinski, Mr. Collins, Mrs. Hosler, and Mrs. Caforio voted aye. Motion carries.

Action Item

Approve Resolution regarding the estimated amounts necessary to be levied for the year 2021

President Caforio asked for a motion to approve the "Resolution Regarding the Estimated Amounts Necessary to be Levied for the Year 2021" and the notice of the proposed tax increase for publication in the Elmhurst Suburban Life. Mrs. Trautmann moved and Mrs. Arvanitis seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mrs. Trautmann, Mrs. Arvanitis, Mr. Collins, Mrs. Hosler, Mrs. Stuefen, Mr. Kocinski, and Mrs. Caforio voted aye. Motion carries.

Approve Medical & Dental Benefit Contracts

President Caforio asked for a motion to adopt approve the renewal of Blue Cross/Blue Shield health and dental insurance plans for the January 1 – December 31, 2022 year, as presented. Mrs. Arvanitis moved and Mrs. Hosler seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mrs. Arvanitis, Mrs. Hosler, Mr. Collins, Mr. Kocinski, Mrs. Trautmann, Mrs. Steufen, and Mrs. Caforio voted aye. Motion carries.

Approve Superintendent Goals

President Caforio provided some background stating the superintendent goals align with our district goals and key performance indicators.

President Caforio asked for a motion to approve the Superintendent goals, as presented. Mrs. Trautmann moved and Mr. Kocinski seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mrs. Trautmann, Mr. Kocinski, Mr. Collins, Mrs. Arvanitis, Mrs. Stuefen, Mrs. Hosler, and Mrs. Caforio voted aye. Motion carries.

Superintendent's Communication

Fall Housing Enrollment Update

Mr. Whelton provided enrollment numbers as of September 30, 2021, along with a 5-year history. The details for each school can be found in the BoardDocs presentation. Mr. Whelton also highlighted the following enrollment information:

1) At the K-5 Elementary level, kindergarten enrollment increased by 25 to 559. Kindergarten is trending up, and the trend will likely continue with the new Lincoln and Field schools; 2) Conrad Fischer's enrollment continues to grow, and is the highest of the elementary schools. Fischer's enrollment has increased from 418 in 2015-16 to the current enrollment of 548 students. Field's enrollment has been stable with 383 students. Jackson's total enrollment is stable at 443 but does have a larger kindergarten and first grade classes; 3) The middle schools had peak enrollment in 2015-16 at 1,993, with Sandburg at 749 and Churchville at 542. The middle schools continue to experience decreasing enrollment the last few years to the current 1,757 students, with Sandburg at 623 and Churchville at 435; and 4) York's enrollment peaked (four years after the middle schools) in 2019-20 to 2,882. York enrollment has decreased two years in a row to 2,754. With York having a very large 12th grade class and a small 9th grade class. The board commented on presenting in the future enrollment vs. capacity numbers, along with sections per school.

SY 21-22 Moving Forward Together Update and COVID Metrics

Dr. Campbell stated that the microsite is fluid and continues to be updated regularly and encouraged people to continue to check out the site for updates. Some of the updates included, provided families with a new definition for outbreak provided by IDPH and announcing updated allowable practices for students to return to school including expanded rapid testing options. She thanked the panel of medical providers who discussed the vaccine for school aged children with over 150 people registering, along with the video being available on our website. Dr. Campbell highlighted that 91% of staff have been vaccinated, with approximately 39% of York students and approximately 36% of middle school students being vaccinated. A booster clinic is being offered on November 5, along with working with Northshore Clinical to provide volunteer on-site testing.

FOIA - Freedom of Information Act Requests: Dr. Campbell reported the following FOIA requests, 1 Curriculum FOIA request, granted; 1 Contract FOIA request, granted; 1 District staff information FOIA request, granted; 1 COVID information FOIA request, granted; 1 Contractor information FOIA request, not in possession; 1 Staff membership FOIA request, granted; 1 Commercial student information FOIA request, denied.

Social Media Highlights: Mr. Gomez highlighted the social media posts, which includes Hawthorne teacher zooming with a student's grandpa, a hydrogeologist from India during their learning about water; Field students welcoming therapy dogs; Churchville teacher demonstrating culinary skills to students; and transition students discussing and voting on naming the new transition building.

Board Communications

IASB 2021 Resolutions for Delegate Assembly

Mrs. Hosler explains that the resolutions process begins in April where any member school district can submit a resolution to IASB in the hopes it will be adopted and become one of IASB position statements. In August, a resolutions committee reviews each position statement and makes a recommendation to either adopt or not adopt the position statement. At the delegate assembly, held at the annual joint conference (November 20), one delegate from each member school district can vote. The proposals adopted at the delegate assembly will become position statements to provide direction for Illinois Association of School Board (IASB) to advocate for all the districts collectively in Springfield. Mrs. Hosler asks the board if there is any discussion but no vote is taken at the board meeting. A board member advocated to not adopt the student safety and protection plan but to support adoption of child safe gun storage.

Upcoming Meetings (anticipating special BOE meeting in a few weeks)

November 16, 2021 Board of Education Policy Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.-District 205 Center, Rooms 215, 216, & 217

Adjournment - End of Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

We certify this document as the correct minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Elmhurst CUSD 205 Board of Education held on October 26, 2021.



Kara Caforio - President



Courtenae Trautmann - Secretary